

United States Embassy Seoul, Republic of Korea
Security Message for U.S. Citizens:
Seoul Anti-US Demonstrations Planned for Tuesday, August 15, 2017
Date: August 14, 2017

U.S. Embassy Seoul informs U.S. citizens that the Peace Movement, which consists of various civic groups, is planning to stage a large-scale anti-U.S. demonstration on Tuesday, August 15, 2017. Please note the U.S. Embassy is closed to the public on August 15, 2017 in observance of National Liberation Day of Korea.

Supporters plan to gather at Seoul City Hall Plaza. The demonstration is scheduled to commence at 3:30 p.m. and to conclude at 7:00 p.m. Korean authorities are anticipating approximately 7,000 supporters. After gathering, the demonstrators will march north on Sejong-daero Street passing the Embassy and will continue towards the Embassy of Japan. The group will complete its march at Gwanghwamun Plaza. The U.S. Embassy is located in Gwanghwamun Square, site of several tourist attractions, including the Gyeongbokgung Palace. Police authorities will close multiple traffic lanes to facilitate the march.

U.S. citizens are advised to avoid areas where demonstrations are taking place and exercise caution in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations. Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling or residing abroad enroll in the Department of State's [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) at the [State Department's website](#). STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Contact the U.S. embassy or consulate for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) to have travel information at your fingertips.

The U.S. Embassy in Seoul is located at 188 Sejong-daero, Jongno-gu and is open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., telephone 02 397-4000. If you are a U.S. citizen in need of urgent assistance *outside of business hours*, **the emergency after-hours number for the U.S. Embassy/Consulate is 02 397-4114.**